

Docket No. AUS920010218US1

**CLAIMS:**

What is claimed is:

1. A method for building a search query in a data processing system having a graphical user interface, comprising the steps of:
  - responsive to user input, dropping a graphical component representing a first system object onto a graphical component representing a query function;
  - 10 presenting a set of attributes of the first system object; and
  - responsive to user selection, creating a search query from the selected set of attributes.
- 15 2. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of using the search query to assemble a set of system objects having attributes similar to the selected set of attributes.
- 20 3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the subsystem attribute is a graphical user interface (GUI) subsystem attribute.
- 25 4. The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising the step of defining a search scope for assembling the set of system objects.
- 30 5. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first system object represents the data processing system in a distributed computing environment.

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6. A system, comprising:

    a bus system

    an input device connected to the bus system;

    a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the

5    memory includes a set of instructions; and

    a processing unit connected to the bus system,

    wherein the processing unit, responsive to user input

    from the input device, executes the set of instructions

    to drop a graphical component representing a first system

10    object onto a graphical component representing a query

    function, the processing unit presents a set of

    attributes of the first system object, and responsive to

    user selection from the input device, the processing unit

    creates a search query from the selected set of

15    attributes.

7. A system for building a search query in a data processing system having a graphical user interface, comprising:

20    dropping means, responsive to user input, for dropping a graphical component representing a first system object onto a graphical component representing a query function;

    presenting means for presenting a set of attributes

25    of the first system object; and

    creating means, responsive to user selection, for creating a search query from the selected set of attributes.

30    8. The system as recited in claim 7, further comprising using means for using the search query to assemble a set

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of system objects having attributes similar to the selected set of attributes.

9. The system as recited in claim 7, wherein the  
5 subsystem attribute is a graphical user interface (GUI)  
subsystem attribute.

10. The system as recited in claim 8, further comprising  
defining means for defining a search scope for assembling  
10 the set of system objects.

11. The system as recited in claim 7, wherein the first  
system object represents the data processing system in a  
distributed computing environment.

15 12. A computer program product in a computer readable  
medium for building a search query in a data processing  
system having a graphical user interface, comprising:  
instructions, responsive to user input, for dropping  
20 a graphical component representing a first system object  
onto a graphical component representing a query function;  
instructions for presenting a set of attributes of  
the first system object; and  
instructions, responsive to user selection, for  
25 creating a search query from the selected set of  
attributes.

30 13. The computer program product as recited in claim 12,  
further comprising instructions for using the search  
query to assemble a set of system objects having  
attributes similar to the selected set of attributes.

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14. The computer program product as recited in claim 12, wherein the subsystem attribute is a graphical user interface (GUI) subsystem attribute.

5 15. The computer program product as recited in claim 13,  
further comprising instructions for defining a search  
scope for assembling the set of system objects.

16. The computer program product as recited in claim 12,  
10 wherein the first system object represents the data  
processing system in a distributed computing environment.

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